Swift Observation of GRB 090401B

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1 Introduction

BAT triggered on GRB 090401B at 08:35:25 UT (Trigger 348152) (Schady, et al., GCN Circ. 9066), and Swift slewed immediately to this burst. This was a 64 ms event trigger with a significance of 41.40. GRB 090401B was a long, multi-peaked burst, with $T_{90} = 183 \pm 29$ s. The best position is the UVOT position, RA(J2000) = 95.08775 deg (06h20m21.11s), Dec(J2000) = -8.97199 deg (-08d58'19.5'') with an estimated uncertainty of 0.5 arsec (radius, 90% confidence).

GRB 090401B was also detected by INTEGRAL SPI/ACS, Konus-Wind (Golenetskii, et al., *GCN Circ.* 9083), Suzaku WAM (Suzuki, et al., *GCN Circ.* 9084), as well as by SuperAGILE and AGILE/ACS and MCAL, with a significant detection above 2.8 MeV (Moretti, et al., *GCN Circ.* 9069).

2 BAT Observation and Analysis

Using the data set from T-239 to T+914 s, the BAT ground-calculated position is RA(J2000) = 95.095 deg (06h20m22.7s), $Dec(J2000) = 8.963 \text{ deg } (-08d57'47.1'') \pm 1.0 \text{ arcmin, (radius, systematic and statistical, 90% containment) (Stamatikos, et al., <math>GCN \ Circ. \ 9068$). The partial coding was 67%.

The masked-weighted light curve (Fig.1) shows several FRED-like peaks with the first starting at $\sim T-0.4$ s. The brightest peak is at $\sim T+7$ s with a long exponential tail out to $\sim T+600$ s. T_{90} (15-350 keV) is 183 ± 29 s (estimated error including systematics) (Stamatikos, et al., GCN Circ. 9068).

The time-averaged spectrum from T-0.1 to T+326.1 s is best fitted by a simple power-law model. The power-law index of the time-averaged spectrum is 1.37 ± 0.05 . The fluence in the 15–150 keV band is $(1.0 \pm 0.0) \times 10^{-5}$ erg cm⁻² and the 1-s peak flux measured at T+6.49 s in the 15–150 keV band is 23.1 ± 0.5 ph cm⁻² s⁻¹(Stamatikos, et al., *GCN Circ.* 9068). All the quoted errors are at the 90% confidence level.

3 XRT Observations and Analysis

The XRT began observations of GRB 080401B 73.2 s after the BAT trigger and detected a bright, fading, uncatalogued X-ray source. Using 2409 s of overlapping XRT Photon Counting (PC) mode data and 5 UVOT images for GRB 090401B, the astrometrically corrected X-ray position (using the XRT-UVOT alignment and matching UVOT field sources to the USNO-B1 catalogue) is RA(J2000) = 95.08773 deg (06h20m21.06s), $Dec(J2000) = -8.97244 \text{ deg } (-08d58'20.8'') \pm 1.7 \text{ arcsec } (radius, 90\% confidence)$ (Osborne, et al., $GCN \ Circ. 9070$).

The 0.3-10 keV light curve (Fig.2) can be modelled with an initial power-law decay with a decay index of $\alpha_{X,1} = 1.16 \pm 0.03$ that breaks at $t_{break} = 574^{+141}_{-92}$ s to a steeper decay index of $\alpha_{X,2} = 1.47^{+0.02}_{-0.01}$.

The X-ray spectrum formed from the Window Timing (WT) mode data can be fitted with an absorbed power-law with a photon spectral index of $\Gamma = 1.74 \pm 0.03$, absorbed by a column of $(3.68 \pm 0.12) \times 10^{21}$ cm⁻² in excess of the Galactic value of 2.3×10^{21} cm⁻² (Kalberla, et al., 2005). The PC mode spectrum has a photon index of 2.13 ± 0.11 and a best-fitting absorption column of $(4.4^{+0.5}_{-0.4})\times 10^{21}$ cm⁻² (Rowlinson, et al., GCN Circ. 9073). All errors are at the 90% confidence level.

4 UVOT Observation and Analysis

The UVOT observed the field of GRB 080401B 82 s after the BAT trigger, and detected a likely optical afterglow candidate in the early white and u-band finding chart observations, although there was some initial source confusion with a catalogued source ~ 3 arcsec north-west of the optical afterglow candidate. The transient nature of the uncatalogued source was promptly confirmed, and was localised at $RA(J2000) = 95.08775 \text{ deg } (06h20m21.11s), \ Dec(J2000) = -8.97199 \text{ deg } (-08d58'19.5'') \pm 0.5 \text{ arcsec } (radius, 90\% \text{ confidence})$ (Schady, et al., $GCN \ Circ. \ 9067$), consistent with the enhanced XRT error circle (Osborne, et al., $GCN \ Circ. \ 9070$). Analysis on the full data set revealed a source detection in the white, v, b and u-band filters, but not in any of the UV filters, placing an upper limit on the redshift of z < 3.

Using a 2.5 arcsec aperture, the measured magnitudes in the UVOT photometric system (Poole, et al., 2008) and 3 σ upper limits for detecting a source in co-added frames are given in Table 1. The combined light curve (Fig.3) can be modelled with by a power-law with a decay index of $\alpha_{opt} = 1.37 \pm 0.04 \ (chi^2/\text{dof} = 83.8/30)$. The fit is marginally improved by a broken power-law fit with an initial decay index of $\alpha_{opt,1} = 1.44^{+0.04}_{-0.02}$ that breaks at $t_{break} = 645^{+98}_{-32}$ s to a shallower decay index of $\alpha_{opt,2} = 0.82^{+0.05}_{-0.07} \ (\chi^2/\text{dof} = 57.7/28)$, although an f-test indicates that this is not a significant improvement to the fit.

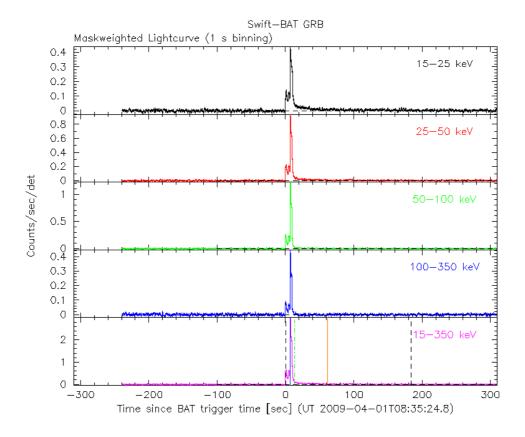


Figure 1: BAT Light curve. The mask-weighted 1-s light curve in the 4 individual plus total energy bands. The units are counts/s/illuminated-detector and T is 08:35:25 UT.

GCN Report 208.1 23-Apr-09

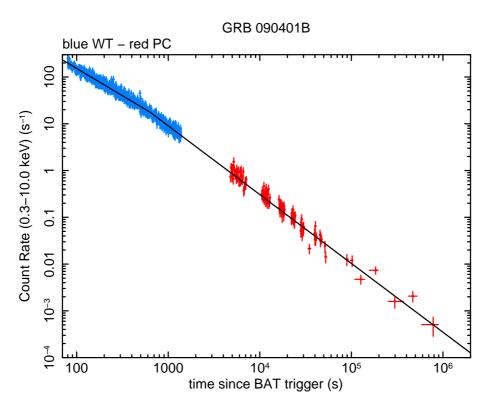


Figure 2: XRT Light curve. Counts/s in the 0.3-10 keV band taken in Window Timing mode (blue) and Photon Counting mode (red). The broken power-law fit is shown in black. The approximate conversion of the absorbed flux is $1 \text{ count/s} = 4.5 \times 10^{-11} \text{ erg cm}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$.

Filter	T_{start} (s)	T_{stop} (s)	Exposure (s)	$Mag/3\sigma UL$
white	80	5469	294.0	16.83 ± 0.02
white	11355	12221	844.3	19.14 ± 0.08
\mathbf{v}	623	1248	78	18.31 ± 0.20
\mathbf{v}	4753	4953	197	19.10 ± 0.25
b	549	1346	58	19.48 ± 0.26
b	5573	5773	197	20.39 ± 0.28
u	293	543	246	17.99 ± 0.07
u	698	1312	58	18.67 ± 0.22
uvw1	672	1297	78	> 19.42
uvm2	647	1272	78	> 18.99
uvw2	599	1387	78	> 19.39

Table 1: Magnitudes from UVOT observations. The values quoted are not corrected for the expected Galactic extinction corresponding to a reddening of E(B-V)=0.67 mag in the direction of the burst (Schlegel, Finkbeiner & Davis, 1998).

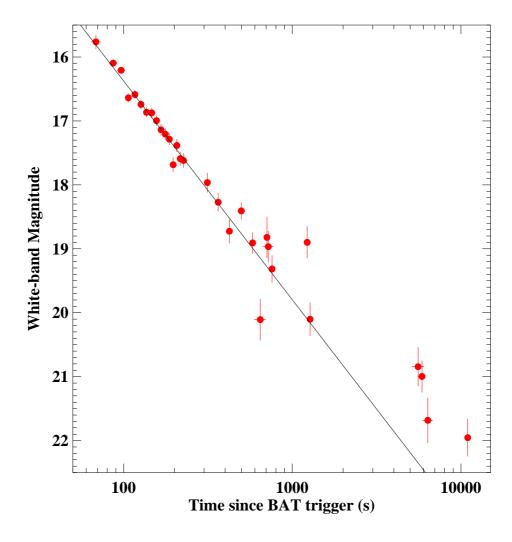


Figure 3: UVOT multiband light curve normalized to the white band filter in observed magnitude, containing all white, v, b and u band data points detected with at least 3σ significance. The power-law fit is shown in black.